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10 DEC 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Washington Post Article on Satellite
Reconnaissance.

1. As a result of a preliminary analysis of the article entitled "Our Fantastic Eye in the Sky" which appeared in the Washington Post on 8 December 1963, OSA/DD/S & T has concluded that virtually all of statistics and "disclosures" featured in the article have previously appeared in public print and can be considered to be in the public domain. This does not in any way foreclose on the possibility of security breaches which might have pertained with regard to the original disclosures, but it does suggest that they are just being repeated in the article under review.

2. Analysis of the article undertaken by OSA results from a necessarily cursory examination of the large body of material which has previously been published on satellite reconnaissance. Considerable more time than has been allocated for the preparation of this paper would be required to identify specifically all of the publications and articles from which the author has assembled this feature; however, we have been advised that the CIA Office of Security has undertaken an investigation and a more thorough analysis of the article to establish beyond question OSA's initial evaluation of the article.

3. In summary, although the information contained in the article is substantially true, there are sufficient inaccuracies and omissions to suggest that the author has taken data from open sources and previous

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
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25X1A

 3647-63
Page 2

publications, embroidered it with some of his own speculation and presented it as a composite and authentic picture of the U. S. satellite reconnaissance program.

Signed
ALBERT D. WHEELON
Deputy Director
(Science and Technology)

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3647-63

Page 3

25X1A

SAL/OSA (9 Dec 63)

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